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Message Text

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46
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 COME-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /073 W
---------- 122045
O 231330Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6006

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 8483

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, UN, ECOSOC
SUBJ: 61ST ECOSOC: U.S. PROPOSAL ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS

REF : A) STATE 179170, B) STATE 179225 #

1. EMBASSY HAS ATTEMPTED TO RAISE SUBJECT ISSUE AGAIN AT HIGHEST LEVEL MINISTRY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND WAS DIRECTED TO OBEBE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION DIVISION (OBEBE IN FACT IS ACTING DIRECTOR OF OID).

2. DESPITE EMBASSY ARGUMENT FOR URGENCY, OBEBE SAID HE COULD NOT DISCUSS SUBJECT ISSUE UNTIL MORNING OF JULY 26. CITED OUTSTANDING COMMITMENTS AND THE NEED TO STUDY ILLEGAL PAYMENTS ISSUE AS REASONS FOR DELAY.

3. COMMENT: OBEBE WAS POLITE AND CONCILIATORY THROUGHOUT CONVERSATION. LIKELY THAT HE (AND THUS FMG) TELLING TRUTH, I.E., IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY FAMILIAR WITH AND POSSIBLY DOES NOT YET HAVE A POSITION ON ILLEGAL PAYMENTS ISSUE DESPITE TWO MEETINGS BETWEEN EMBOFFS AND MEA OFFICIALS SPECIFICALLY ON SUBJECT. NEVERTHELESGN SINCE IT IS EMBASSY EXPERIENCE THAT ATTEMPT TO CONTACT HIGHER LEVEL MEA OFFICIAL (E.E., COMMISSIONER GARBA) WILL BE REDIRECTED DOWN TO OBEBE, BELIEVE
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HAVE NO CHOICE EXCEPT TO WAIT UNTIL JULY 26.

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CROSBY

NOTE BY OC/T: #REFTEL NOT IDENTIFIED

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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